

## West Virginia Influenza Summary, Week Ending April 6, 2013 (MMWR Week 14)

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Dear Influenza Partners,

West Virginia has reported influenza activity as “**Sporadic**” for MMWR week **14** (week ending Saturday April 6, 2013).

Influenza activity across West Virginia continues to taper off. The percentage of outpatient visits to healthcare providers for influenza-like illness (ILI) was at 1.2% which is below the state baseline of 2.2%.

On April 1, 2013 the World Health Organization (WHO) reported several human infections with avian influenza A (H7N9) viruses in China. This is the first time this avian influenza A subtype (H7N9) has been detected in humans. As of Friday April 12, 2013 a total of 44 cases of human infection with this new H7N9 have now been detected and officially reported by China. A few of the infected people in China have had mild illness, but most illness associated with these infections has been severe so far; 11 people have reportedly died. The source of the infection is unknown at this time and there has been no reported human-to-human transmission. After the first human infections with H7N9 were detected, Chinese authorities detected H7N9 viruses in poultry in the same area where the human infections have occurred. There are no reported cases of H7N9 in the United States or anywhere else outside of China at this time. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is currently following this situation closely and coordinating with domestic and international partners. Since this H7N9 virus is novel influenza with pandemic potential, the situation in China is being carefully investigated.

Weekly influenza surveillance graphs for West Virginia and the most recent information available on influenza A subtype (H7N9) can be found at <http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/oeps/disease/flu/Pages/default.aspx>. Because of late reporting, we must sometimes update information in retrospect. The website will always have the most up-to-date numbers. Please feel free to contact us at (304)-558-5358, extension 1, with any questions regarding this report.